

PRIORITY

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REF-64165

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PAGE 01

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UNITS: APT ASOTBU CIO COSCOM DEMO HCOMB HOCNOT INSCOM ISC JFK LAO REP
MEDC AC RG ROTC SAO SFOD SUCLANT SOCOM SSD SWS 16MP 17MI 18AVN 18CA FLE
18FG 18URD 19REP 20ENG 35SIG 824BN 513MI 525MI 902MI

PTTUZYUW RUEKJCS 2421 3650702-11000--RUCLAKA.

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P 310702Z DEC 87

FM JCS WASHINGTON DC

INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC

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FM AMEMBASSY KARUL

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7800

RUEFIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 443A

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 6259

INFO RUEHUU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

RUEHIA/USTA WASHDC 2064

RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC

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RUSNQA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 04 KARUL 02421

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NEW DELHI, ALSO FOR RSO, ISLAMABAD ALSO FOR USIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLACE; PARIS ALSO FOR
USDAO; DEPARTMENT-ALSO FOR NEA/PAR, MR. BRUNO; THE HAGUE
FOR A-DAM

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, MCAP, PINS, PINR, RSEC, UR, IF

SUBJECT: KARUL CITY DEVELOPMENTS: (12/21-12/27)

REF: A) KARUL 2393, R) KARUL 2372

1. FOR ISLAMABAD AND NEW DELHI: YOU MAY WISH TO DRAW
ON THE FOLLOWING IN BRIEFING PRESS.

2. SUMMARY: MUJAHIDIN ACTIVITY IN KARUL CONTINUED
UNUSUALLY HEAVY FOR WINTER, WITH FIVE ROCKET ATTACKS AND
SIX REPORTS OF FIGHTING IN OR NEAR THE CITY. IN
SEPARATE INCIDENTS TWO ROPRS EXPLODED AND THREE REEPE
OFFICIALS WERE ASSASSINATED IN THE CITY. IN A LATE
REPORT, PROBABLY THE MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENT OF THE WEEK,
MUJAHIDIN ROCKETS THE RALEIGHTH DIVISION HEADQUARTERS
IN THE KARGHA AREA, THE WESTERN-PCST DISTRICT OF KARUL
CITY. A RELIABLE REPORT CLAIMS 15-20 ROCKETS STRUCK THE
BASE AREA BEGINNING AT APPROXIMATELY 1600 HOURS,
DECEMBER 27. A FEW ALSO FELL IN A NEARBY RESIDENTIAL
AREA. DURING THE WEEK, SECURITY WAS TIGHT, POSSIBLY IN
ANTICIPATION OF MUJAHIDIN ACTION TO COMMEMORATE THE
EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOVIET INVASION (DECEMBER
27). PLAINCLOTHED ARMED YOUTHS HAVE BEEN OBSERVED IN
OUTLYING CITY DISTRICTS CONDUCTING PATROLS, APPARENTLY
MILITIA BROUGHT IN TO SUPPLEMENT REGULAR SECURITY
PERSONNEL NOW INVOLVED IN THE CAMPAIGN TO LIFT THE SIEGE
AT KHOST. PRESS GANG OPERATIONS TARGETING SOMETIMES
UNCER-DRAFT AGE BOYS CONTINUE THROUGHOUT THE CITY ALONG
WITH ROUND-UPS OF DESERTERS FROM THE KHOST-GARDEZ
FIGHTING. SOVIET CONVOY ACTIVITY SOUTH FROM KARUL HAS
BEEN UNPRECEDENTEDLY HEAVY WITH MAJOR COLUMNS MOVING OUT
ALMOST DAILY. AIR ACTIVITY, INCLUDING SOUTHBOUND
FLIGHTS OF KARUL-BASED SUKHOI 25'S HAVE BEEN ONLY AT
MODERATE LEVELS, POSSIBLY AN INDICATION THAT THE
OVERCAST SKIES, NOW INCREASINGLY COMMON OVER KARUL, ARE
POSING A PROBLEM FOR SOVIET AIRCRAFT IN THE PARTIA
REGION AS WELL.

3. MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS: DIPLOMATS AND AFGHANS
REPORTED THE FOLLOWING INCIDENTS:

-- DECEMBER 27: HEAVY MACHINE GUN FIRE WAS HEARD FROM
WITHIN THE KARUL BASIN AT 0015. FIGHTING TO THE NORTH
AND 198216 3-5 91 583 -840545 2- 83-43 149. .83.8885
7.581 -0049/8.-5316 0530. THE COMBAT INCLUDED HEAVY
MACHINE GUN AND SOME HEAVIER WEAPONRY, POSSIBLY
MORTARS. DURING THE EARLY MORNING HOURS DIPLOMATS ALSO

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REPORT OUTGOING ARTILLERY AND POSSIBLY TANK FIRE TO THE WEST. MUJAHIDIN ROCKETS THE RA EIGHTH DIVISION HEADQUARTERS AT KARGHA. THE BOMBARDMENT WHICH BEGAN AT 1600 AND CONTINUED PERIODICALLY FOR SEVERAL HOURS RESULTED IN BETWEEN 15-20 ROCKETS HITTING THE EIGHTH DIVISION AREA. SOME ROCKETS FELL IN NEARBY KARGHA VILLAGE CAUSING CASUALTIES. DURING THE DAY A BOMB IGNITED A FUEL TANK IN KOTI-SANGI.

-- DECEMBER 26: AT 0020, DIPLOMATS REPORT INCOMING ROCKETS IN NORTHWEST KABUL FOLLOWED BY OUTGOING ARTILLERY FIRE. AT 0715, CLUSTER FLARES WERE OBSERVED IMMEDIATELY NORTH OF THE KABUL BASIN. OUTGOING ARTILLERY FIRE WAS HEARD IN WESTERN KABUL FROM 1400 TO 1420. AT 2210, DIPLOMATS REPORT INCOMING ROCKETS IN WEST KABUL FOLLOWED BY OUTGOING ARTILLERY. EIGHT OR MORE ROCKETS ALSO STRUCK KHAIK KHANA AT 2232. ARTILLERY WAS HEARD FIRING FROM KHAIK KHANA AND THE PAFKMAN AREA

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PAGE 01

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INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC
RUENJAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
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~~RUECLAKA/CORATHPSYOP GP FT BRAGG NC//AFVS-POE-E-SSD//~~
RUEDBIA/COR513THMIGP FT MONMOUTH NJ//IAM-IC-D//
FHCESRB/COMUSARCENT FT MCFLYERSON CA//AFRO-DSO//
RHHMORA/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI
RUECLAKA/COR8THPSYOPAN FT BRAGG NC
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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7799
RUEFIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMAPAC PRIORITY 4435
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 6258
INFO RUEHUU/AFGHANLWAR COLLECTIVE
RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 2063

RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC
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RUSKNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
RUCLAKA/FT BRAGG NC AF/S//POE/SA
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RUFDAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
RHFGAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AR EE
RHFGAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//ENCO
RIDOGHA/USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//
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 VOL. EO & PA exemptions _____ To authorize

FOI, EO & PA exemptions _____ TS authority to: _____
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NEW DELHI, ALSO FOR RSO, ISLAMABAD ALSO FOR USIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLJCS; FARIS ALSO FOR
USDAO; DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAR, MR. MUMIN; THE HAGUE
FOR A-DAM

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, MCAP, PINS, PINR, ASEC, UR, AF

SUBJECT: KABUL CITY DEVELOPMENTS: (12/21-12/27)

OVERNIGHT DECEMBER 26-27.

-- DECEMBER 25: AFGHANS REPORT FIGHTING NEAR THE
AIRPORT FROM APPROXIMATELY 2200 TO 0300 (DECEMBER 26).-- DECEMBER 24: ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT, TWO
ARTILLERY BATTERIES EAST-SOUTHEAST OF KABUL FIRED FROM
2140 TO 2200. A DIPLOMAT REPORTS DISTINCT EXPLOSIONS
WITHIN THE CITY AT APPROXIMATELY 2220, PROBABLY CAUSED
BY INCOMING ROCKETS. A SEPARATE DIPLOMAT REPORTS SMALL
ARMS FIRE NORTH OF THE AIRPORT BETWEEN 2225 AND 2230. A
ROCKET OR ROCKETS REPORTEDLY FELL IN KHAIR KHANA AROUND
MIDNIGHT. ALSO OVERNIGHT, AN AFGHAN REPORTS FIGHTING IN
KHAIR KHANA PASS.-- DECEMBER 23: DURING THE EVENING A BOMB REPORTEDLY
EXPLODED IN KOTI-SANGI AND MUJAHIDIN ASSASSINATED THREE
REGIME OFFICIALS IN KHAIR KHANA.-- DECEMBER 22: AT 0850, ARTILLERY WAS HEARD TO THE
NORTHWEST. AT 1050, A DIPLOMAT REPORTS AN EXPLOSION TO
THE SOUTHEAST. MACHINE GUN FIRE WAS HEARD TO THE
SOUTHEAST AT 2140 AND BEGINNING AT 2155 AND CONTINUING
FOR APPROXIMATELY 90 MINUTES MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHERS
FIRED FROM NORTHWEST AND POSSIBLY SOUTHWEST KABUL. AT
THE SAME TIME, DIPLOMATS OBSERVED TRACER FIRE AND FLARES
IN THE NORTHWEST. DURING THE EVENING, A ROCKET (OR
ROCKETS) HIT DOGHARAD, TWO KMS SOUTHEAST OF THE DEFENSE
MINISTRY, KILLING THREE.-- DECEMBER 21: DIPLOMATS HEARD OUTGOING ARTILLERY FROM
SOUTH KABUL AT 1000. AT 1040, THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION IN
WEST KABUL. BETWEEN 1745 AND 1900, DIPLOMATS OBSERVED
SMALL ARMS FIRE EXCHANGE, FLARES AND OUTGOING ARTILLERY
AND MORTAR FIRE FROM KHAIR KHANA. BETWEEN 2055 AND
2120, HEAVY MACHINE GUN FIRE WAS HEARD IN WAZIR AKHAR
KHAN.4. VEHICLE MOVEMENT IN THE KABUL AREA: MAJOR SOVIET
CONVOYS MOVED VIRTUALLY DAILY FROM KABUL TOWARD THE
GARCIZ-KHOSH FIGHTING VIA THE LGAR ROAD. THE NUMBER OF
LARGE SOVIET CONVOYS MOVING SOUTH WAS UNPRECEDENTED.
THEY INCLUDED ARMOR COLUMNS AND HEAVILY DEFENDED SUPPLY
CONVOYS. REGULAR MOVEMENT OF HELICOPTERS FROM KABUL

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-- DECEMBER 27: AT 0950, A SOVIET SUPPLY CONVOY MOVED SOUTH ON THE KABUL-KANDAHAR ROAD.

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PAGE 01

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DC DL DOI DS EH EN FSE GC IG JA MD PA PAO PH RC RN SLC
UNITS: APT ASOTBD CID COSCOM DRMO HCDDBG HOCNOT INSCOM ISC JFK LAO
MEDDAC RG ROTC SAO SFOO SOCLANT SOCOM SSD SMS 16MP 17MI 18AVN 18CA
18FG 18ORD 19REP 20ENG 35SIG 82ARN 913MI 925MI 902MI

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RUWSAAA/MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IAO//

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7801

RUEFIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 4437

RUEHMF/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 6260

INFO RUEHUU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 2045

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RUSNOLA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

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RUFCAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

RHFCAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE

RHFCAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO

RUDOGHA/USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//

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UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 04 K/ARUL 02421

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NEW DELHI ALSO FOR RSO, ISLAMABAD ALSO FOR USIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEES? ALSO FOR POLADS: PARIS ALSO FOR
USDAO: DEPARTMENT-ALSO FOR NEA/PAR, MR. BRUND: THE HAGUE
FOR A-DAM

E.O. 12354: P/A

TAGS: MOPS, MCAP, PINS, PINR, ASEC, UR, AF

SUBJECT: KABUL CITY DEVELOPMENTS: (12/21-12/27)

VEHICLES (VEHICLE UNIT ID 1051) WAS OBSERVED MOVING EAST
ON PERIMETER ROAD. AT 0730, A SOVIET ARMORED CONVOY OF
OVER 150 VEHICLES AND INCLUDING TEN T-62 TANKS, 17
SELF-PROPELLED GUNS (152MM), OVER 25 BMP'S, OVER 35
BTR'S AND A NUMBER OF MT-LB'S, TANK RECOVERY VEHICLES
AND TRACKED COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS VEHICLES WAS
OBSERVED MOVING SOUTH ON THE LOGAR ROAD. SOME OF THE
VEHICLES ORIGINATED FROM A RIVOUAC ON PERIMETER ROAD IN
NORTH KABUL WHILE OTHERS WERE SEEN ARRIVING IN NORTH
KABUL VIA THE SALANG AT 0615.

-- DECEMBER 25: AT 1600, A SOVIET TRANSPORT CONVOY
(VEHICLE UNIT ID 1022) CONTAINING OVER 30 EMPTY TRUCKS
MOVED NORTH ON THE SALANG. AT 1615, A SOVIET TRANSPORT
CONVOY (VEHICLE UNIT ID 1023) CONTAINING OVER 40
VEHICLES WAS OBSERVED MOVING WEST ON PERIMETER ROAD.

-- DECEMBER 24: AT 0710, A SOVIET FUEL CONVOY OF OVER
40 TRUCKS WAS OBSERVED MOVING EAST ON PERIMETER ROAD.
THE CONVOY JOINED A LARGER CONVOY COMPRISING MANY
ARPCREC VEHICLES, PRIMARILY BTR'S, ALL BOUND FOR THE
LOGAR ROAD.

-- DECEMBER 23: AT 0640, A LARGE MIXED-CIVILIAN AND
MILITARY RA CONVOY INCLUDING MANY TRUCKS, WAS OBSERVED
MOVING NORTH ON THE SALANG. THE CONVOY INCLUDED AN
ESCORT OF BTR'S SPACED APPROXIMATELY EVERY TENTH
VEHICLE. AT 0730, A SOVIET ARMORED CONVOY ARRIVED IN
NORTHERN KABUL VIA THE SALANG. IT BOKE EXTENSIVE COMBAT
DAMAGE.

-- DECEMBER 21: AT 0530, 79 RA TRANSPORT TRUCKS WITH
ARMOR ESCORT MOVED WEST THROUGH THE CITY FROM THE
JALALABAD ROAD. AT 0650, A SOVIET CONVOY OF TRANSPORT
TRUCKS (OVER 80 VEHICLES, VEHICLE UNIT ID NO. 1313)
MOVED NORTH ON THE SALANG WITH A BTR ESCORT. AT
APPROXIMATELY THE SAME TIME, AN RA CONVOY COMPRISING
OVER 120 MIXED FUEL AND TRANSPORT TRUCKS, OVER 30 ARPC'S
AND BTR-152'S SERVING AS ESCORT, MOVED NORTH ON THE
SALANG.

5. AIR MOVEMENT IN THE KABUL AREA: GRADUALLY
INCREASING CLOUDS OVER KABUL REDUCED THE VOLUME OF
MILITARY AIR TRAFFIC IN THE KABUL AREA. SU-25'S BASED

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PT 64167

PAGE 01

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7802

RUEHIL/ANEMRASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 4438

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INFC RUEMUU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

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RMF0AAA/HO USAFE RAMSTEIN AR GE

GHFC AAA/HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE//IACO

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INCLAS SECTION 04 OF 04 KABUL 02421

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FOR A-DAM

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, MCAP, FINS, FINR, JSEC, LR, AF

SUBJECT: KABUL CITY DEVELOPMENTS: (12/21-12/27)

-- DECEMBER 27: SEVEN IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

-- DECEMBER 26: FOUR IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

-- DECEMBER 25: NO IL-76'S ARRIVED. SU-25'S BASED AT
KABUL WERE ACTIVE WITH MOST MISSIONS DIRECTED SOUTH.

-- DECEMBER 24: FOUR IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

-- DECEMBER 23: THREE IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.
SU-25'S WERE ACTIVE IN THE MORNING. HELICOPTER ACTIVITY
TO THE SOUTH WAS UNUSUALLY HEAVY.

-- DECEMBER 22: ONE IL-76 ARRIVED AND DEPARTED.
SU-25'S WERE MODERATELY ACTIVE DURING THE DAY.

-- DECEMBER 21: FOUR IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

6. CONSTRUCTION IN THE KABUL AREA: POST NEW
CONSTRUCTION IN THE KABUL AREA TENDS TO BE REGIME
PROJECTS. PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION IS FOR THE MOST PART
LIMITED TO MODEST ADDITIONS TO HOUSES (OFTEN TO
ACCOMMODATE POOR RELATIVES, REFUGEES FROM THE
COUNTRYSIDE) OR EXPANSION OF A SHOP. BUSINESSMEN CITE
TWO REASONS FOR THEIR LOW INVESTMENT IN CAPITAL VENTURES:
IS THE UNCERTAIN POLITICAL AND MILITARY FUTURE AND THE
HIGH PRICE OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND LABOR. AMONG
PROJECTS NOT PREVIOUSLY NOTED, THE JAMHURIAT HOSPITAL IS
FILLING IN WHAT HAD BEEN A DECORATIVE CEMENT FRONT TO
THE BUILDING WHICH GAVE LITTLE PROTECTION TO THE GLASS
PANELED FIRST FLOOR FRONT WALL. THE WALL SOON WILL BE
SOLID BRICK. MCWILLIAMS

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AT KARUL, GENERALLY WERE ACTIVE WEATHER PERMITTING. HELICOPTER MOVEMENT FROM KARUL AIRPORT TO THE SOUTH WAS HEAVY ON SEVERAL DAYS, ESPECIALLY ON DECEMBER 23. GENERAL SECRETARY NAJIBULLAH'S DEPARTURE ABROAD, DECEMBER 24, WAS ACCOMPANIED BY VERY TIGHT SECURITY MEASURES INCLUDING LAYERED RA AND SOVIET GROUND DEFENSE OF THE AIRPORT AND LAUNCHING OF TWELVE CLUSTER FLARES AROUND THE KARUL RASIN PERIMETER AS HIS AIRCRAFT DEPARTED, PROTECTED ALSO BY SEVERAL SOVIET MI-24'S. IN AN UNEXPLAINED DEVELOPMENT, 12 HELICOPTERS APPEARED TO BE FLYING ESCORT FOR A SINGLE IL-76 WHICH ARRIVED AT KABUL AT 0900, DECEMBER 27. THE NUMBER OF IL-76'S ARRIVING IN KARUL RETURNED TO A RELATIVELY AVERAGE LEVEL OF 23 FOR THE WEEK, UP FROM 18 THE PREVIOUS WEEK. AIR TRAFFIC AT NIGHT WAS MODERATE, POSSIBLY REFLECTING LIMITATIONS OF BAD WEATHER. DIPLOMATS REPORT THE FOLLOWING AIR MOVEMENT:

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